New York Tribune

First to Last-the Truth: News-Editorials -Advertisements Member of the Audit Buresu of Circulations

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Our Unused Riches in Land

This country is very proud of the fact that this year over fifty million acres were sown in wheat. It went far toward winning the war. There were also forty millions in oats, ten millions more in barley and rye and over a hundred millions more in corn. In brief, our vast cereal crop, running this year to a value of six or seven billions, is produced from an area of a little over 200,000,000 acres.

In his report to Congress Secretary Lane, in discussing the problem of the returning soldier, again draws attention to the fact that we have in the United States "a full 200,000,000 acres which might be converted into farms either by irrigation, drainage or clearing." The richest and most promising part of this That is the land available for irrigation. gether! Secretary Lane says that, although no complete survey has ever been made of

"it is estimated that there are from 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 additional acres which need only irrigation to make them as fertile as the far-famed Valley of the

These fifteen millions or more of acres still remain in the government's hands. They are, as the Secretary says, "the great remaining storehouse of government land for reclamation." As is well known, the moment water is provided these lands possess an extraordinary fertility, so that ten well tilled acres are often more than the producing equivalent of a quarter-section farm in the Middle West. This means that if this land could be brought under cultivation it might ily support a population of a million or more farmers alone. This would mean roughly, under present conditions, the basis of an added three millions of population. For the most part these lands are available only through governmental action. Private irrigation proj-

ects have never been overly successful. But by far the greater portion of our unused and unproductive lands are not in the Far West, but in the eastern half of claimed swamp lands, estimated at something like seventy or eighty million acres, and the cut-over and logged-off timber lands, which run over 200,000,000 is in Florida, with 10,000,000 acres in Louisiana and other large areas in Mississippi, Minnesota and Arkansas. Small areas of this swamp land, when they have been reclaimed, have revealed

the wonderful productivity of their soil. in the South and in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Texas. Of these the Secretary says:

"In their present state they are a pictof former forests which have been shattered by artillery fire. Yet when this land is cleared and brought under the plough its soil, rich with the accumulation of humus of hundreds of years, possesses extraordinary agricultural possi-

bilities." Secretary Lane remarks that under present conditions the problem of reclaiming these vast areas could never be solved in its entirety by private enterprise. The items of labor and capital involved dwarf into insignificance any work of a similar character ever before undertaken. That would make even the Panama project, which ten years ago loomed so large, of minor importance. But in the last year and a half this country has learned that it can raise by taxation and loans more than twenty billions if it has a mind. Probably a tenth of this twenty billions would make available

possibly threaten. If it could be planned | selves escaping unharmed. The Ameri-

characterize the present head of the Interior it could hardly fail to prove a great national enterprise.

Christmas in France

Christmas is children's day above all else. Every American grown-up has his flock, his own, his family's or his friends, with whom he will celebrate. For American children the day means this year more happiness, more cheer, more toys, more candy than in a long row of Decembers. A merry Christmas, indeed.

But what of the children of France; what, especially, of the million fatherless boys and girls to whom peace cannot restore what the war has taken away? To much of France peace means increased hardship. The hundreds of thousands of prisoners that are returning from Germany bring sickness and wasted bodies for overwhelmed families to care for. Christmas, 1918, will be gayer for all France than its four predecessors. But it will not mean more food for orphansto say nothing of more candy and toys.

So we ask every Tribune reader, in the fulness of his Christmas heart, to add a French child to his flock of cherished little friends. The need there is not for Christmas gifts, but for plain sustenance. The organization known as the Fatherless Children of France offers a direct channel by which you can reach and help and know a French child whose father has lost his life in the war. Ten cents keeps a child one day in its mother's home; \$3 keeps a child one month in its mother's home; \$36.50 keeps a child one year in its mother's home. Of the money thus subscribed not one cent goes to organization expenses—the entire amount goes direct to the mother of the child. With the first instalment of your money goes a letter from the Paris committee explaining the friendship which has prompted the gift and enabling the child or its mother to write and thank the "donor" in America.

Now is the time of all others to begin this friendship with a French child-in your own name or for your own child. But it is in the years to come that the full flower will bloom. Ten or twenty years hence think what it will mean to France and to America that there will be coming to manhood and womanhood these loval friends of ours, who learned their affection for our country in childish gratitude and friendship! What seaplanes, the giant NC-1, on a flight is in mere acreage much the smallest. closer bond could knit two countries to-

Over 100,000 French children have been thus helped by American friends. The City of New York is behind in its quota, but we are confident this tardiness needs only to be stated to be ended. The It is intended for bombing. of at present arid land in the West for New York treasurer of the Fatherless which water is available if properly con- Children of France is Alexander J. served. There are, for example, half a Hemphill, of 140 Broadway, and to him million acres in the Colorado River basin | your check should be sent. You can pay your subscription by year, quarter or month. Begin your French Christmas a half tons and has a gross lifting power

The Contrast

As the armies of the Allies march into Germany they cannot help but remember what they have left behind them in France. The scenes of desolation wrought by the Hun come vividly before their eyes. The ruined churches, the stricken homes, the devastated eat, drink and are merry. Perhaps life does not go on quite the same as it did in former days; but the difference is not startling. By all accounts the Germans show few signs of suffering. They go to the theatres, they fill the restaurants, they live comfortably, if not happily. Some privations they may have endured, but they bear few marks of these. They greet the invaders sullenly, but the old arrogance of the days of peace has not the United States. These are the unre- departed from them. When General von | no doubt will soon be made public. They Einem speaks of the victorious returning German soldiers he finds many cred-

ulous believers. "Look here, upon this picture, and on | folks had believed. acres. Of the swamp area one-quarter this." Think what the Hun has done in France and in Belgium! What must these French and Belgian soldiers who have had all that makes life dear swept away from them feel when they see their brutal oppressors thus exempt from all they have endured? It is not surprising The cut-over timber lands lie largely | that their advent was dreaded by their defeated enemies. Had the Germans been marching into France after Frenchmen had ravished all the lands to the Rhine, it is easy to imagine what they ure of desolation. Only a vast area of would have done. To imagine Frenchstumps remains to mark the former for- men giving them cause for a terrible reest. As good an idea as any of this waste | taliation is more difficult. The dishonor land may be obtained from photographs of making war like savages belongs to a single nation. But most of us impute to others our own failings. The Germans are no doubt relieved of a great terror by the civilized behavior of the Allies, but it is unlikely that they un-

An Englishman who visited a German internment camp in England said to one of the prisoners: "Why, you are better fed than I am." "Of course," was the reply; "you English are afraid of us." That expresses the whole German attitude. Of the decencies of life the German has no understanding. He can conceive of no motive for humane conduct but a base one. He knows what he would do if he had the chance. Just now he is restrained by a wholesome regard for the consequences. He realizes that these soldiers of the enemy have the power to compel obedience. But he has not changed his spots. The French know for cultivation an area equal to that this; so do the Belgians; so, in a way, idea of unified command, which, under Genwhich now produces more than five do the English. They will not take a eral Foch, proved the foundation stone of billion bushels of cereals and equal to sordid vengeance upon those who are nearly one-half of the entire area of im- helpless to resist, no matter how they proved farm land in the United States. | hate and loathe them. But there must Here is a great work for the immediate | be a peculiar bitterness in the reflection future. The mere beginning of it could that they who have inflicted the worst solve almost any labor surplus that could | horrors of war upon others are them-

home to them in the same way. But they ought not for that reason to allow any compunctious visitings of nature to soften their hearts. They ought not to be moved by the hypocritical whinings of the baffled and beaten Huns. The pacifists at home may prate about pity, but the men in uniform should show

themselves to be of sterner stuff. From stricken France into unravished Germany-how can the contrast fail to awaken a noble rage in every generous

Peace With Subways

For the sake of the strap-hanger and the taxpayer, hostilities between the Public Service Commission and the Board of Estimate should at once be terminated by an armistice, to be followed, after negotiation, by permanent peace. Acrid discussion between Commissioner Whitney and Controller Craig in the newspapers should be superseded by courteous conference around a table to straighten out differences and get the work on the dual system prosecuted.

The Public Service Commission, having now complied with the requirements of the Board of Estimate by presenting a detailed budget of its working expenses for 1919, and also a list of the contracts which it proposes to make in 1919, with estimates of their cost, arranged in order of urgency, the Board of Estimate will serve the city if it makes a prompt appropriation of funds that will allow the commission to recruit its force, which was depleted during the war, and to let, with the minimum of delay, the contracts necessary for getting the full use of those lines now nearly completed.

While conserving carefully the city's credit, the Board of Estimate can apportion for rapid transit construction funds enough to permit quick compleconcur, and open-minded consideration should bring agreement as to the soundest policy to adopt respecting the doubt-

An Aerial Triumph

Above all question of speculation, prophecy or imagination, the Navy Department chronicles perhaps the greatest achievement in the recent history of the aeroplane. One of the newest type last Thursday at Far Rockaway carried a total of fifty persons. No special modifications were made in the machine for this purpose. It was done simply to demonstrate the tremendous lifting power of this newest seaplane.

The new machine carries three Liberty motors, developing 1,200 horsepower and giving this enormous craft a cruising speed of eighty miles an hour. The machine, unloaded, weighs six and of eleven tons. That is, it will carry four and a half tons of passengers or freight. And it is an American-built and American-designed machine.

The fuel consumption of this monster craft, with its 126 feet spread of wing, is not given. Therefore, it is not yet possible to consider how far this new sceaplane will satisfy the conditions for well over twenty-lour hours. But something over four tons of fuel ought to be equal to this requirement. What we know definitely is that in the Liberty motor we have the best aero engine that has yet been built for this purpose, and if the problem is mechanically soluble this country ought to be able to solve it. And, possibly, at a rather near date. The detailed figures as to the performance of this machine may indicate that a journey across the Atlantic by airplane is much nearer realization than most practical minded

Woman vs. Bolshevism

About the most striking feature of women as they take their place in political life is an innate and natural antipathy to Bolshevism. The Battalion of Death set the example by fighting Lention," refused to follow the red flag when it became stained with the new tyranny of the Bolsheviki.

In England the leaders of the woman's movement displayed great patriotism and a vision. They abandoned their fight for the vote promptly and transferred all their great ability and influence to the organizing of the nation against the German. Mrs. Pankhurst and her daughter fought vigorously the whole pacifist-Bolshevik movement in all its forms.

Here in America our women, too, have been jealous and sure in their patriotism, in war spirit, in opposition to the disintegrating forces of red-handed radicalism. Now comes the Women's National Committee of the American Defence Society with a stirring call to women to fight the red flag and all its works.

Is it too soon to generalize concerning the masses of women? Perhaps. Yet, have we not always known which was the more practical, common-sense sex?

A Woman Won the War?

A woman, no less a personage than Miss Christabel Pankhurst, is credited with the Allied success against the armies of the Hun. Premier Lloyd George, among the first to appreciate the value of the suggestion offered by the suffragist leader, is said to have promised that Miss Pankhurst will be given official recognition at the proper | sult. time. This is not the first time an idea born in the brain of woman has gotten with such vision and practical wisdom as | cans have not had these horrors brought | man out of a bad tangle,

SHOES & SHIPS & SEALING WAX

SONG

WAS spring upon the uplands When my laddie said goodby And, oh, the earth slept pleasantly Beneath a smiling sky.

The bloodroot by the river bloomed And young leaves clothed the trees And all the woods were blossoming With white anemones.

The folk that passed by told me The world was very fair But yet my heart seemed cold and bleak And snow lay heavy there.

The ice had clothed the river When my lad came back to me, His dear bright face burned thin and brown By wind on land and sea.

The wind sang high and bitterly About my cottage eaves; And driving snowflakes hissed upon The piles of russet leaves. Held tight within a frigid hand The world was stark and dumb. But deep within my heart of hearts

I knew that spring had come.

Rain spoiled the "red" demonstration in Central Park; blood and booze being the mildest fluids with which a true Bolshevik will maintain acquaintance. 18 ap 39

WOMAN'S PLACE-DRESSMAKING-I have moved my Dressmaking Parlor to my home on Main street. Mrs. E. W Gruber, nee Mrs. Dean. - Titusville (Fla.) Advocate,

BACK HOME STUFF "Cheedy" Funk

"Cheedy" Funk lived with the Allman tion of the work on which both bodies | family in the double brick house on Front Street. He was a cornet player, and in the summer he travelled up and down the river with Price's Floating Opera. He had been all the way to New Orleans.

People used to line the river bank along the public square every summer to watch the showboat, towed by the Maybelle Hope, land below the wharfboat.

There was always a parade at noon, and "Cheedy" Funk would march in uniform, seemingly very much embarrassed and not looking to the right or left. In the afternoon "Checdy" would drop into Shott's | Mayor Hylan, Smoke Shop and meet all the people in town. At night he played in the orchestra People back home always knew it was

spring when "Cheedy" Funk would quit his job as carver at the furniture factory and go to Parkersburg to join the showboat.

"Cheedy" was very modest and never talked much about his travels. Small boys were proud to know him, and used to collect around him wherever he was. He was a big man, with apple-red cheeks and

People around town used to say that "Cheedy" was married to a trapeze performer with the show, known as Mile. Zuekko, Queen of the Air, but she never came back home except with the floating opera. There was always something of a worked during the winter at the factory sace-Lorraine. he kept away from all the other men.

Elza Whittleby, who worked in the postoffice, told that "Cheedy" Funk sent money was on a poor tarm.

RATTLING THE SKELETON What is to become of your French baby?-

THE KAISER'S CELLMATE

Dear F. F. V.: Considering your suggestion for the cellmate of W. Hohenzollern, can we not find another in the person who says: "We turned the tide"?

There is a back action in that senthinks and feels afraid to use it and beware of the tragic implication in it. If we could, and did, "turn the tide," thought it worth while? M. H. S.

"I see by the 'Evenin' Telegram,'" 'hailed as an apostle' in Brest, and I ine and Trotzky. Mme. Breshkovskaya, ment this will be to his faithful follow- the birthplace of Marshal Ney, was the F. F. V.

The Hearst Slime

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Yesterday I returned from France on the Tenadores. As we steamed into the harbor I was unable to go on deck, but the sound of the whistles and the bands came down to me. It was very good to be home again. Now I have finished my morning paper and I find that it has been decided to personify this welcome of New York's and America's in a committee. And the head of this committee is to be William Randolph Hearst.

becomes one of the greatest events in their lives. In all the hardships of the field and the weary hospital days it has been steadily in their minds. When it finally arrives the cheers and noise of their welcome flood through them; the finest feeling of which they are capable swells up almost to overflowing. Then on the next day they find out that this welcome is tendered them by William Randolph Hearst, and the memory of the day is covered with slime

Let us hope that this wicked perversion of the country's feeling will not go The returning men "deserve well of the Republic." With Hearst at the head of the committee, their homecoming is converted into a mockery and an in-W. S. L.

S. Deembarkation Hospital No. 2. Fox Hills, Staten Island, N. Y., December 12, 1918.

THE COMMITTEE OF ONE



There are several whose names were suggested by friends and, upon their being invited to serve on the committee, declined. It is to be regretted that there are those who always place personal interest and animosity above their patriotism,—

France and Coal

By Frank H. Simonds

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eign dispatches. The inclusion of a re- loo, she took the other half. In 1871, stricted area of German territory with- after another successful war, she took in the confines of Alsace-Lorraine in the half the iron fields, and in 1914 she armistice terms has provoked the sus- planned to take the balance. picion in German quarters that it is the purpose of the French to extend mystery about "Cheedy" Funk. When he their frontiers beyond the limits of Al-

This is, in effect, familiar ground. for transatlantic flight. At eighty miles orders to a different city every week. gan the publication of secret treaties, sia entered upon her predatory career the stricken homes, the devastated fields—these remain poignantly in their an hour, for a flight from, say, Halifax "Cheedy" was taken ill in Cairo, Ill., while more than a year ago, it was then as in the west. She had been stealing of 1914. What are we going to do about to Bristol Bay, the machine would have out trouping and became paralyzed, and serted that Great Britain and Russia Polish territory for half a century in all these and what are we going to do about a land untouched by war, where folk to be prepared to maintain itself in the the last folks heard of him back home he had agreed that France should have, in the east. addition to Alsace-Lorraine, certain limited areas along the Saar River, which were the seat of a flourishing

coal industry. As the question is bound to be debated in the future, it is worth examining it now before the issue can be clouded by propagandist activities. The territory involved is rather less than It came to France as a portion of the tence which would make any one who province of Lorraine in the reign of Louis XV, not by conquest, but by international agreement, which gave a Polish king the province of Lorraine for why did we wait so long before we his lifetime in return for renouncing the Polish crown. At his death Lorraine passed, by agreement, to France.

In fact, Lorraine had been French says Uncle Abimelech Bogardus, of long before this time, but with the death Preakness, N. J., "that Mr. Wilson was of Stanislas French frontiers were legally extended to and beyond the Saar can't help thinkin' what a disappoint- River below Saarbrücken. Saarlouis, important fortress in this district. At the moment of the French Revolution France thus held a considerable area across the Saar.

> When Napoleon abdicated, in 1814, Prussia, eager to acquire the coal districts of the Saar, succeeded in persuading the victorious nations to take from France and give to her all the regions across the Saar. In 1815, after Waterloo, when a new treaty was written. France had to cede further territory, this time on the west bank of the Saar, and including Saarlouis.

By these two annexations Prussia deprived France of nearly all the Saar coal region. The next step was to ac-The members of the A. E. F., think quire the great iron districts in Lora great deal of the homecoming. It raine and not far from Metz. This was accomplished after the war of 1871 by the seizure of still another and far more considerable portion of Lorraine, including the French-speaking districts about Metz.

When they drew the new frontier of 1871 the Germans drew it to include all the known iron regions of Lorraine. But after 1871 great iron deposits were discovered just across the French frontier, about the town of Briey. As a consequence, all through that period in the war in which the Germans believed themselves victorious they openly declared their purpose to annex all the Briey iron districts at the close of the war. They occupied them almost at the outbreak of the struggle.

We see, then, a relatively ancient dis-

N RECENT days there has been fre- | pute revived. In 1814, as a result of quent reference to the question of a victorious war, Prussia took half the the Saar coal districts in the for- Saar coal region. In 1815, after Water-

Now what is proposed, if it be proposed, and we have no official French Jaeckh, Count zu Reventlow, Paul Rohrstatement as yet, is to complete the re- back. Dr. Heinrich Vogt. Hermann Oncken, integration of French territory by the Otto Tannenburg, Friedrich Naumann, ureunion to France of territory seized | dolph Stuebe-the list is too long even to When the Russian revolutionists be- more than a century ago, when Prus-

French claim. But in addition is the fact that during the present war the Germans have deliberately and wantonly wrecked all the great French coal mines of the north about Lens. They | Industrials, the leaders of the Social Demohave blown up some and turned rivers | crats and National Liberals as well as of into others. American engineers have estimated that it will take from three that occupied by the City of New York, to five years to get the mines working again, and some are irretrievably ruined.

The purpose of this destruction was chvious. The Germans sought to destroy French industry by depriving France of coal and also to make French. factories dependent upon Germany for coal rationing. As it stands now, they have been so far successful that years will pass before the French can again. rely upon the northern coal mines even for a portion of their supply.

Therefore, nothing seems more in accordance with justice than that the French should be permitted to take from Germany the coal supply needed becau e of German devastations. In addition, French claim to permanent possession of the coal regions rests upon former ownership, interrupted only by forcible annexation following successful German attacks.

We have, on the other hand, to face the fact that the inhabitants of the districts affected are German, and would doubtless choose German rather than French citizenship. There is, then, a plain conflict of principles involved, which will require judicious settlement. Fortunately, the area affected is excessively small and the population inconsiderable.

But it is essential to guard against German propaganda which will be loosed to catch the uninformed and unwary with the assertion France is embarking upon imperialistic and annexationist operations. Nothing could be less just or accurate. French claims are impressive; they are fortified by German conduct in France in the present war and they deserve American

Or a Hat Check Boy

(B. L. T., in The Chicago Tribune)

As, according to the questionnaire, the signer drew \$45 a month wages, yet spent \$1,500 a year on his family, a sleuth was sent out to investigate him. His statements proved to be true. He was a Pull-

All of Them

to knot international law about the Kaiser's wretched neck, well and good;

(From The Villager) F POPULAR opinion wants the lawyers

few of us but would heartily concur. And if it were necessary to go further, as of course it would be, and arraign the whole group of Junkers, branches of the Hohenzollern régime, who acted directly to bring about this war, most of us would join the prosecution. But shall we not have to go even further? What are we going to de about Frederick von Bernhardi, Ernst begin of those Germans who unofficially and of their own zeal have for twenty years So much for the legal aspects of the received their propaganda, who accepted the outgivings of "Greater Germany," the "Orient Library," the "Near East Committee," and found them good? What are we going to do about the League of German Farmers, the Central Union of German the conservative parties in Germany; what are we going to do about the "Chemnitzer Volkstimme," the "Rhenische Zeitung," all the list, not of Junker organs, but of Socialist newspapers which supported the war programme; what, in short, are we going to do about the great multitude-individuals. members of political, commercial, literary, journalistic, academic and labor organizations-who lent enthusiastic hands and manimous approval to the plan which included hacking a way through Belgium; what are we going to do about these who number not thousands but millions, and what finally, since we are seeking the acnessories, are we going to do about those free Germans, legally American citizens, who celebrated the sinking of the Lusitania and by their plaudits urged their Fatherland on toward further crimes-what are we going to do about all these? Indict the Kaiser, yes, but let not the effort overshadow the guilt of the German people who supported him.

Unethical Nurses

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Numerous criticisms have reached me regarding the exorbitant charges alleged to have been made by graduate nurses during the recent influenza epidemic. In justice to the thousands of nurses who are guided by professional and ethical standards, the public should be acquainted with certain facts.

I am positive that there was no exploits tion by nurses who were secured from hos pital registries or from the Central Registry of the New York County Registered Nurses' Association; such action would not be tolerated or condoned.

There are, however, in this city, a number of commercial registries where neither the credentials nor the qualifications of the nurses supplied to the public are considered matters of great importance. These women must not only pay a registration fee, but are required to pay to the proprietor a percentage of their earnings. They are influenced by no ethical considerations and naturally take advantage of any opportunity which offers for increasing their

JENNIE GREENTHAL, R. N., President New York County Registered Nurses' Association. New York, Dec. 6, 1918.